

239587

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

(Caption of Case)

Example: Application for a Class C Charter Certificate from
John Doe dba Doe's Limo

**Application for a Class C Non-Emergency
Certificate from Med EXpress LLC**

**BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

TRANSPORTATION COVER SHEET

**DOCKET
NUMBER: 2012 - 354 - T**

If this is your first time filing an application with the PSC, you will not have a Docket Number. The Commission will assign one to you. If you have filed with the Commission before, a Docket Number was assigned and should be entered above.

(Please type or print)

Submitted by: Robert W. Caswell

Telephone: 843-902-4957

Address: 140 Kenzgar Dr.

Fax: 843-650-5433

Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

Other:

Email: bcaswell63@gmail.com

NOTE: The cover sheet and information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law. This form is required for use by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina for the purpose of docketing and must be filled out completely.

NATURE OF ACTION (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class A/A Restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Name Change on Certificate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class C Taxi | <input type="checkbox"/> Request to Amend Scope of Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class C Charter | <input type="checkbox"/> Request to Amend Tariff (rate increase, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class C Charter Bus | <input type="checkbox"/> Request to Amend Passenger Limit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class C Non-Emergency | <input type="checkbox"/> Request |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class C Stretcher Van | <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class E Household Goods | <input type="checkbox"/> Late-Filed Exhibit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Class E Hazardous Waste | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed Order |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension to Comply with Order | <input type="checkbox"/> Publisher's Affidavit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Order Granting Authority to Obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to be Rescinded | <input type="checkbox"/> Reservation Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Cancellation of Certificate | <input type="checkbox"/> Response |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Suspension | <input type="checkbox"/> Return to Petition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Reinstatement | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Petition to Intervene |

RETURN DATE: OK
SERVICE: _____

RECEIVED
8
PSC

If you have any questions about this form, please contact the PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION at 803-896-5100.

Robert W. Caswell, Owner/President

**320 Reindeer Moss Court ♦ Myrtle Beach, SC 29588 ♦ Phone: 843.650.LIFT (5438) ♦ Fax: 843.650.5433
bcaswell63@gmail.com**

September 27, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

I write to express my opposition to Med EXpress LLC's Application for a Class C (Non-Emergency) Certificate on the grounds that the public convenience and necessity is already being served in the area that Med Express identifies as its Office (i.e. Charleston), and that the introduction of any additional NEMT provider in this area (and throughout many areas of the state) will only serve to weaken the existing provider network, by lessening the providers' daily trip volume, diminishing their capacity to multi-load passengers, and disrupting strategic transportation patterns and efficiencies. The introduction of an additional provider, who will take another slice of the already too small revenue pie and effectively drive up costs, will almost certainly weaken these same companies that are struggling mightily to survive in an increasingly austere business sector.

In addition, the application is filled with inconsistencies and seemingly impossible scenarios that at least bear out the need for clarification, and seem to evidence a hasty and perhaps ill-prepared management team. For example, the applicant indicates that the company has a physical or legal address in Broomfield, CO. This seems problematic. Also, the Office, as listed in the Articles of Organization, has the same address as a UPS Store in Charleston. In addition, neither of the two listed Officers, nor the Applicant, appear in the defining legal document of the company (i.e. the Articles of Organization); only an Amanda J. Beren of Westlake, CA (who receives no other mention in the docket) is listed. In our highly litigious world, this arrangement is problematic in the least, and would seem to warrant review by the state's adjudicating bodies.

Also, the application is substantially scant of relevant detail. It is not plausible that Med Express will be able to serve "Statewide" with only five sedans and one wheelchair van. Clearly, there must be an intended county or area of concentration that the applicant has failed to identify. The financials would also reveal an impending disaster with an insurance down payment that will likely devour all of the \$20,000 in cash on hand, with nothing left for up fitting, fuel, payroll, etc. With a daily per unit cost of \$300 to \$400, and very likely 20 to 30 days of driving before a substantial payday, the application's financial detail reveals a serious shortfall looming. This would seem to raise questions about the applicant's fitness and ability to perform this vital public service.

In all likelihood, the issues and concerns enumerated in paragraphs two and three above can be clarified and/or worked out with a little bit of time, attention and money; however, the problem identified at the start of this letter cannot be corrected simply by the PSC and the ORS simply doing the right thing, by denying this application or perhaps by directing the applicant to consider serving a different county or area of the state. What is clearly needed from all of the relevant state agencies and, in particular, from HHS and from the Medicaid broker who are the primary custodians of this vitally important work, is a more thoughtful, supportive and collegial approach that will, in the end, not only help us to succeed, but make us better neighbors to one another.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Caswell

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Going the Extra Mile

